

### **AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, as follows.

#### **In the Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) A dermal or transdermal therapeutic system comprising a peelable protective layer, a reservoir or matrix layer containing at least one active compound and a covering film having a barrier effect against gases, aromas and readily volatile substances, characterized in that the covering film is composed of at least one supporting layer which is composed of at least one organic polymer and at least one layer composed of an ormocer.
2. (Original) The dermal or transdermal therapeutic system as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the ormocer is obtained by the hydrolytic condensation of organically modified silicon dioxides.
3. (Currently amended) The dermal or transdermal therapeutic system as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the supporting layer is composed of polyethylene terephthalate and the active compound is nicotine characterized in that the supporting layer is composed of at least one organic polymer.
4. (Currently amended) The dermal or transdermal therapeutic system as claimed in claim 1 ~~claim 3~~, characterized in that the organic polymer is composed of low density or high density polyethylene, or of polypropylene, polyamide, polyvinyl chloride, polyvinyl ester or polyester, of a mixture of at least two of these polymers or of at least one copolymer composed of at least two monomers of the abovementioned polymers.
5. (Previously presented) The dermal or transdermal therapeutic system as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the supporting layer is composed of polyethylene terephthalate.
6. (Previously presented) The dermal or transdermal therapeutic system as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the ormocer layer has a thickness of between 1  $\mu\text{m}$  and 10  $\mu\text{m}$ .

7. (Previously presented) The dermal or transdermal therapeutic system as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the ormocer layer is applied on the supporting layer such that it is adjacent to the active compound-containing layer.
8. (Previously presented) The dermal or transdermal therapeutic system as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that in each case at least one ormocer layer is applied on both surfaces of the supporting layer.
9. (Previously presented) The dermal or transdermal therapeutic system as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that it comprises a readily volatile active compound.
10. (Original) The dermal or transdermal therapeutic system as claimed in claim 9, characterized in that the active compound is nicotine.